



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No. 2078

Inventor(s): DIRKS et al.

Group Art No. 3732

Serial No.: 10/772,413

,Filed: February 6, 2004

Atty Dkt. No.: 121640-40308234

Title: **BONE FIXING DEVICE**

July 28, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit herewith information as cited on the attached PTO Form-1449 for consideration by the Examiner in the above-identified application. Each item of information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is included in the attached Partial European Search Report.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited to enable Applicants to comply fully.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 are earnestly solicited along with an early action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,
Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP

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FORM PTO-1449 (modified)
To: U.S. Department of Commerce
(PW FORM PAT-1449)
Patent and Trademark Office



Atty.
Dkt. No.

M#

Client Ref.

121640-40308234

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

Applicant: DIRKS et al.

Application Serial No. 10/772,413

Filing Date: February 6, 2004

Examiner: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: 3732

Date: July 16, 2004

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*		Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Name (Family Name of First Inventor)	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AR	4,662,886	5-5-1987	Moorse et al.			
	BR	5,540,703	7-30-1996	Lange et al.			
	CR	4,790,850	12-13-1988	Lewis et al.			
	DR						
	ER						
	FR						
	GR						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Country	Inventor Name	English Abstract		Translation Readily Available	
						Enclosed	No	Enclosed	No
	HR	WO 02 067793	9/2002	WO					
	IR	WO 01 45576	6/2001	WO					
	JR								
	KR								
	LR								
	MR								
	NR								
	OR								
	PR								
	UR								

OTHER (Including in this order Author, Title, Periodical Name, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	QR								
	RR								
	SR								
	TR								
	UR								
	VR								

Examiner

Date Considered:

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.